

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 32**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Gatto**

January 6, 2014

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 32—Relative to the  
Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 32, as introduced, Gatto. The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

This measure would encourage and support the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's continuing efforts to develop as a free and independent nation, and urge the President and Congress of the United States to support the self-determination and democratic independence of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and its constructive involvement with the international community's efforts to reach a just and lasting solution to security issues in that strategically important region.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Nagorno-Karabakh, also known as Artsakh, has  
2 historically been Armenian territory, populated by an  
3 overwhelming majority of Armenians, and yet was illegally severed  
4 from Armenia by the Soviet Union in 1921 and placed under the  
5 newly created Soviet Azerbaijani administration; and  
6 WHEREAS, February 20, 1988, marked the beginning of the  
7 national liberation movement in Nagorno-Karabakh, which inspired  
8 people throughout the Soviet Union to stand up against tyranny  
9 for their rights and freedoms, helping to bring democracy to  
10 millions and contributing to world peace; and

1 WHEREAS, The United States Congress has repeatedly  
2 expressed support for the legitimate aspirations for freedom of the  
3 people of Nagorno-Karabakh, and on September 2, 1991, in  
4 accordance with its enacted law, the legislature of  
5 Nagorno-Karabakh declared formation of the Nagorno-Karabakh  
6 Republic; and

7 WHEREAS, On December 10, 1991, the people of the  
8 Nagorno-Karabakh Republic voted in favor of independence, and  
9 on January 6, 1992, the democratically elected legislature of the  
10 republic formally declared independence; and

11 WHEREAS, Since proclaiming independence, the  
12 Nagorno-Karabakh Republic has registered significant progress  
13 in democracy building, which was most recently demonstrated  
14 during the July 19, 2012, presidential elections that were assessed  
15 by the international observers as free and transparent; now,  
16 therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
18 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature of California hereby  
19 encourages and supports the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's  
20 continuing efforts to develop as a free and independent nation in  
21 order to guarantee its citizens those rights inherent in a free and  
22 independent society; and be it further

23 *Resolved,* That the California State Legislature urges the  
24 President and Congress of the United States to support the  
25 self-determination and democratic independence of the  
26 Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and its constructive involvement with  
27 the international community's efforts to reach a just and lasting  
28 solution to security issues in that strategically important region;  
29 and be it further

30 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
31 of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the  
32 Majority Leader of the Senate, to the Speaker of the House of  
33 Representatives, to each member of the California delegation to  
34 the Congress of the United States, and to the Secretary of State of  
35 California.